

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 12, 2026



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857

Parish Office: 713.738.2311 Fax: 713.738.3337

Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775

Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Conference: 713.731.2716

WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>

E-MAIL: stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com

Parish Office Hours: Tues-Wed 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Fri 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Closed on Mon & Thur

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicChurchHouston> YouTube: St. Francis Xavier Houston

PASTOR:

Very Rev. Michael Thompson, SSJ

DEACONS:

Michael V. Jenkins

Darryl K. Drenon

Frank J. Laugermann (Retired)

SACRISTAN

Orell Dargin

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

BOOKEEPER

Stacie Boisseau.....x109

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION (OCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

Tierra Ledet

ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE

Erica Smith

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson.....x107

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Hope Jackson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER/MAINTENANCE

Curtis Jones/Eugene Wilson

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday (Tue - Fri): 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

One (1) hour before Weekend Masses or by appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs

Wednesdays: 6:30p.m.

Thursdays: 7:00p.m.

Youth Choir

4th Saturdays: 12:00 Noon

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

MISSION STATEMENT

We, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as expressed in the beliefs and traditions of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Through a passion for righteousness and consciousness of duty to God, we uphold the faithful worship of God in our mission to our church family and the Sunnyside Community.

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Communion for the sick and shut-in is available. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the parish office for information. Preparation classes are required for parents and godparents. Classes are held on the 1st and 2nd Thursdays of the month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Call the Parish Office to register for the class.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to your proposed wedding date.

WELCOME VISITORS/NEWCOMERS

To register, call or come by the parish office or visit our website at: www.sfxhouston.com

**GIVE without Cash or Check
TEXT-TO-GIVE**

Text \$ amount to 281-949-7600



*Save the number as a contact in
your mobile phone for easy giving.*

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	07/11/2026	5:00PM
<i>Soul of Florence McChristian (D)</i> Phyllis Moore		
SUN	07/12/2026	7:30AM
<i>Ezzard Sam (D) – Deborah Sam</i>		
SUN	07/12/2026	10:00AM
<i>Jacqueline Smith (D)</i> The Richard Family		
TUE	07/14/2026	7:00AM
<i>Deceased Members of the Johnson Family</i> Judy Johnson		
WED	07/15/2026	7:00AM
<i>Helen Kennison (D)</i> Tywana Navy		
THUR	07/16/2026	7:00AM
<i>Anita M. Bailey (D) – Tywana Navy</i>		
FRI	07/17/2026	7:00AM
<i>Cynthia & Robin Charles & Sons (L)</i> Cynthia Charles		
SAT	07/18/2026	5:00PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Vea Barksdale, Clara Barras, Lucille Barriere, Monica Bass, Hattie Blackmon, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Dylan Broussard, Tommy Burton, Jimmy Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Joe Dixon, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Paul Garrick Jr, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Edmonia Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Alana Higginbottom, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Yolanda Jammer, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Louella Kelly, Kenneth King Jr, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Diane Miles, Cookie Mooring, Debbie Morris, Stephanie Morris, Yusuf Muwwakkil, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Margie Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Melody Ratcliff, Susan Rawls, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Very Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Mary Sias, Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Walter Strickland, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Linda Turner, Deshun Vital, Rosa Vital, Gemma Walcott, Patricia Williams, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today we hear the word of God compared to a seed, which ideally grows within us as it would in fertile soil, yielding a fruitful harvest. Isaiah does this in verse, sung from God's perspective,

comparing the rains that water the earth to God's word showered on those who hear it. The psalmist does this in song, giving thanks to God for providing us with such bounty. Jesus does this via a parable about a sower, after which he explains it to his disciples. Let us listen to God's word, digesting it so that it may yield fruit through us.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**■ Sunday – July 12**

Is 55:10-11
Ps 65:10-14
Rom 8:18-23
Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

■ □ Monday – July 13

Saint Henry
Is 1:10-17
Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23
Mt 10:34—11:1

□ Tuesday – July 14

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Birgin
Is 7:1-9
Ps 48:2-8
Mt 11:20-24

□ Wednesday – July 15

Saint Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
Is 10:5-7, 13-16
Ps 94:5-10, 14-15
Mt 11:25-27

■ □ Thursday – July 16

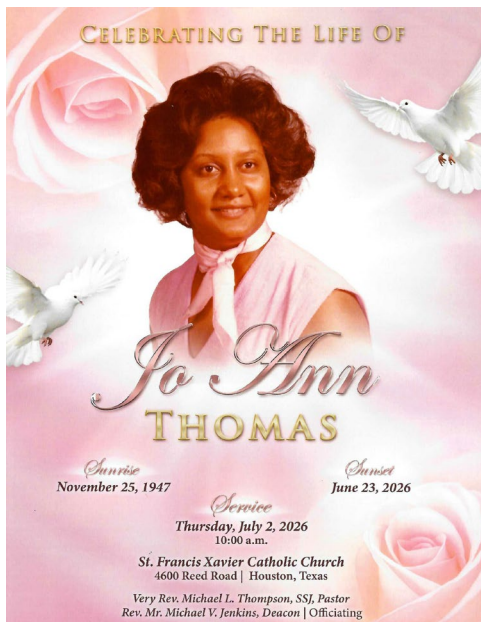
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19
Ps 102:13-14, 15-21
Mt 11:28-30

□ Friday – July 17

Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8
(Ps) Is 38:10-12, 16
Mt 12:1-8

■ □ Saturday July 18

Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest
Mi 2:1-5
Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14
Mt 12:14-21



Joseph Valsin passed away 65 yrs. Mr. Valsin is the Brother of Paul Valsin. The Funeral Mass was celebrated on July 10th at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon them. May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Lord, we pray for all our military service members who put their own lives on the line to protect our families and country.

Army: Sade Beck, Jacc Blanks, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Angel Guillory, LaTroy King, Essence McMillan, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II
Navy: Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Mason Guidry, Alexander Guillory Jr, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Anthony N. Russell, Robert Lee Smith
Air Force: Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander
Marines: Reginald Ward



2026-2027 CCE REGISTRATION

2026-2027 CCE Registration will be accepted in the CCE Office as follows:

Tues & Wed - 9:00am to 5:00pm

Fri - 9:00am to 3:00pm

Classes will begin on Monday, **August 10th** at **6:00pm** for Jr High and High School Students and on Saturday, **August 15th** at **9:30am** for Pre-K and Elementary Students. Call **(713) 731-2775** for additional information.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

&

The Knights of Peter Claver & Ladies Auxiliary



Sponsoring

Annual

Sick, Shut-In & Senior Citizens Luncheon

Tuesday, August 4, 2026

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier Parish Hall
4600 Reed Rd
Houston, Texas 77051

Doors Open: 11:00 a.m.
Program Starts: 11:30 a.m.
Lunch Served: 12:00 Noon

Luncheon (Free) & Prayer Service (Anointing)

Join us



Contact:

St. Francis Xavier Church: 713-738-2312

or

Sign up in the vestibule of the church
RSVP – Tuesday, July 21, 2026

IN THE ONE, WE ARE ONE

IN ILLO UNO UNUM



**SCAN HERE
TO MAKE
A GIFT**



As of July 7, 2026:

Goal - \$79,872.00

Paid - \$11,227.00

Owed - \$68,645.00

Each gift joins with others to make Christ's mercy visible in our parishes schools, and ministries. **In the One, We are One**, sharing His mission to bring hope, healing, and love to all who turn to the Church. May our generosity be a true witness of our unity in Christ.

Visit the DSF page:

<https://www.archgh.org/dsf/>

Donate directly:

<https://archgh.org/dsf#donate>



EVERY 40 SECONDS, SOMEONE IN THE U.S. IS HAVING A STROKE!

Stroke Scan Plus and St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church will be hosting lifesaving, wellness ultrasound screenings on **Saturday, July 25th**. Do you have **high blood pressure** or **high cholesterol**, **diabetes**, or a family history of **heart disease**, **stroke**, **abdominal aneurysm**, or **internal cancers**? If so, do not miss this opportunity for early detection of a possibly serious disease. These screenings are typically NOT performed at your annual check-up, and insurance companies may not pay for them unless you are symptomatic. **Stroke Scan Plus** will be offering them to you for **\$179** for all 7 combined ultrasound screenings (Stroke, AAA, Thyroid, Liver, Kidneys, & Gallbladder). Blood testing will incur an additional cost. Insurance is NOT necessary, and appointments are limited. If you were not able to register on **Saturday, July 11th - Sunday, July 12th**, you can call **832-437-7355** to schedule an appointment today. The screenings will take place at the **St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church Health Fair**. Prevention is your key to quality health! www.strokescan.com.

BLOOD DRIVE

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
4600 Reed Road, Houston

Saturday, July 25

8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Mobile Collection Bus on site

For appointments scan the QR code or visit:

TinyURL.com/SFX725



Appreciation item and refreshments available for donors.



Picture ID required
713-792-7777
MDAnderson.org/BloodBank

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, July 4th and Sunday, July 5th was **421**. The 7:30am Mass Livestream on Sunday received **62** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.

Did you know that Catholics can make an Act of Spiritual Communion?

When unable to receive Holy Communion, pray the prayer below:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you.

Stewardship Reflection

That the seeds God sows in our lives may take root and lead to greater prayer, participation and generosity. "The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word, and it bears no fruit." - Matthew 13:22 Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

The St. Francis Xavier St. Vincent de Paul Conference will meet on Tuesday, **July 14th**, at **2:00pm** in the Harris Center Auditorium.

LECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING



Lectors will meet and take pictures on Saturday, **July 18th**, at **11:00am** in the Harris Center Auditorium.



USHERS

Ministers of Hospitality

will meet on Sunday, **July 19th**, at **11:30am** in the Harris Center Auditorium.



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Jesus said, **“Some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear.”** Matthew 13:8-9

What hinders you from bearing fruit for God?

The Gospel reading (**Matt. 13:1-23**) contains not only one of Jesus’ parables but also His explanation of its meaning. Let’s hear from Jesus about what hinders the Word from producing fruit in our lives.

The evil one steals the Word from your heart- (V. 19) Satan doesn’t want you to have **peace**. It is in the peace and tranquility of your spirit that the **voice of the Lord speaks**, guides and gives clear direction. Satan is not primarily after your possessions-your car, your house, or your clothing. He is after your peace. If your **peace depends on your possessions**, then when those possessions are taken away, your peace goes with them. “The Lord was not in the wind...the Lord was not in the earthquake...the Lord was not in the fire. The Lord was in the still small voice” 1 Kgs. 19:9-14.

Don’t let worldly anxiety and riches choke the Word out of you. Anxiety (constant worrying) has to be **replaced** with faith and trust in God. As you pull into an automated car wash, an attendant directs your left tire onto the guide rail. Then you hear, “Put your vehicle in **neutral**, take your foot off the **brake**, and remove your **hands** from the steering wheel.” Seconds later, the power beneath the car carries you through the wash. When you emerge on the other side, your car is cleaner than when it entered. Anxiety is killing some of you! God is speaking to us: “Take your hands off the wheel. Take your foot off the brake. Put it in neutral, and My power will get you through it.” “My strength is made perfect in [your] weakness” [2 Cor. 12:9].

What does rich soil and fruit look like?

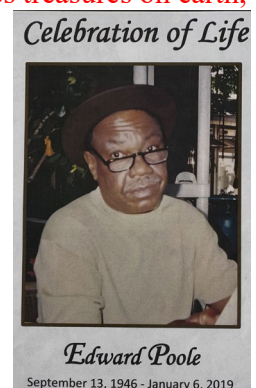
In my Sunnyside neighborhood where I grew up, there was a family who lived across the street from us named **Poole**. The Poole’s had **Edward**, their only child. Ed, who was much older than I was, was an alcoholic, used drugs, was irresponsible toward his wife and was a complete embarrassment to his parents. He almost got into a fight in the Parish Hall during a party because he had been drinking too much. With all of his drug use and drunkenness, he was always friendly to me as I was growing up. Several years ago, a

funeral home owner, who also grew up in my neighborhood, called me on a Sunday to tell me that Ed had died and that the funeral was later that afternoon. I hadn’t seen Edward for decades. By the time the service started, the funeral home was filled to capacity! After the hymns, prayers, and Scripture readings came Reflections, where people stood in line to reflect on what Ed meant to them. People began to form a line; some in suits others in casual wear.

I said to myself, “Well, this is the time we hear about the parties, the drugs, and getting high.” The first person said, “Ed Poole, changed my life, and through him, I am back with my family.” Another man said, I called Ed and told him I had lost faith and was about to go in a bar, and Ed asked where I was and he came and picked me up at 1:00 a.m.” Testimony after testimony was heard of how Ed had pulled people out of **darkness into sobriety**. Through God’s help, Ed overcame his drug addiction, anxiety, the problems in his life, and began helping others. From the testimonies, I discovered he became a licensed drug counselor.

Someone else said, he was authentic, he said what needed to be said for **people’s soul**. One person said, Ed used the **fruits** of the Holy Spirit-love, patience, peace **to help us**. While attending Poole’s funeral, I learned that **it’s not how you start the race, it’s how you finish it** (cf. 2 Tim. 4:7). And Ed had **produced fruit** by changing people’s lives. I know that I only saw a fraction of the **fruit** he produced because he had been a counselor for over **30 years!** Jesus said, **“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal”** (Matt. 6:19-21).

Ed had treasures in heaven. Who are you helping who can never repay you? Who are you assisting to get back on their feet? How many souls may reach heaven because you helped change their lives and pointed them toward Jesus Christ?



◇◇ Dcn. Jenkins



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

7/3/26 - 7/25/26

Drop off Locations:
Before and after Mass
OR

Parish Office-see below

Supplies Needed

Composition Notebooks - Wide Ruled
Pencils
Erasers
Glue Sticks
Highlighters
Folders
Pack of Lined Paper
Pencil Sharpeners
Scissors - Blunt End
Tablets - Wide Ruled

Composition Notebooks - College Ruled
Colored Pencils
Crayons
Elmer's Liquid Glue
Black Pens
Blue Pens
Red Pens
Rulers
Scissors - Sharp End
Tablets - College Ruled

Drop-off Locations – Church Vestibule (Saturday and Sundays before or after Mass) **OR** Parish Office – During office hours for school supplies and financial donations either in person or through the drop box (7 days a week).

We ask parishioners to join in with this special endeavor by donating school supplies. If you do not want to shop for school supplies, please contact Gwen Reed Lamothe at 832-594-5255 for assistance **OR** to give funds to the Church with a statement that the funds are for purchasing school supplies.

School supplies will be distributed at the

Christopher Pichon II Foundation

St. Francis Xavier Parish Organizations

UT Health Stroke Institute &

Congressman Al Green (Honorary Sponsor)

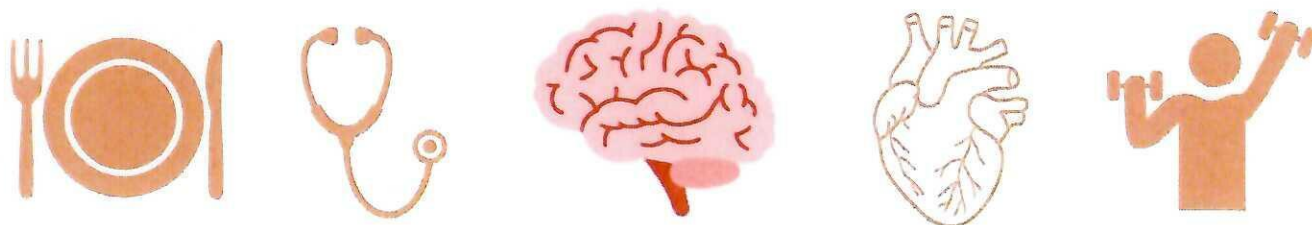
16th Annual Health Fair

July 25, 2026

9am – Noon

BRAIN CAFÉ

Real conversations for better brain health



Featured Health Topics

- Stroke prevention & risk factors
- Dementia and cognitive impairment prevention
- Caregiver mental health and resources

ALL ARE WELCOME

- First 50 attendees receive a free Brain Health Kit
- Snacks and refreshments
- Free parking

Event Schedule

- Brief presentation
- Panel discussion with experts
- Q/A session and resources

Guest Speakers

- Neurologist & Neuropsychologist
- Stroke Survivor
- Geriatric Psychiatrist
- Social Worker & Caregiver



4600 Reed Road
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*St. Francis Xavier
Catholic Church*



Saturday July 25, 2026
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Part of the
The Christopher Pichon II
Foundation Health Fair

Register today!
Scan the QR
code to sign up



Fr. Chester P. Smith
National Black Catholic Men's Conference
Birmingham, Alabama
October 15th - 18th 2026

THE ROCK

I STAND ON

MATTHEW 7:24-26

**Sheraton Birmingham Hotel
2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard North
Birmingham, Alabama
October 15th - 18th 2026**

Type in the passkey link below for hotel reservations

<https://book.passkey.com/e/509610024>

Fr. Chester P. Smith National Black Catholic Men's Conference Oct2026 - Start Your Reservation

To register, go to the Bowman-Francis Ministry website at:
www.bowmanfrancis.org





Mark Gibson
PRESIDENT & CEO



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Justin Mabrie

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